



**State of New
Hampshire
Department of
Education**

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Messages From the Department of Education

April 2015

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ACCOUNTABILITY, ASSESSMENT, INSTRUCTION, AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

A. ESEA Flexibility Waiver Renewal

The NH DOE has submitted its renewal request for flexibility to the U.S. Department of Education (USED). New Hampshire's renewal request ensures all students have the opportunity to be college- and career-ready; identifies, recognizes and supports schools in a differentiated system that acknowledges their past performance; holds them accountable for growth and provides customized support and interventions; and promotes effective instruction and leadership. For more information please go to www.education.nh.gov/accountability-system/index.htm

Contact: Heather Gage, (603) 271-5992, Heather.Gage@doe.nh.gov

B. NH DOE Smarter Balanced Webpage

In addition to the NH Smarter Balanced Portal (<http://nh.portal.airast.org>), educational stakeholders can find information regarding the assessment on the NH DOE Smarter Balanced Web page (www.education.nh.gov/instruction/assessment/sbac/index.htm). This page has been recently updated and provides access to resources for students, parents and families, teachers, school and district leadership, business leaders and policy makers.

Contact: Scott Mantie, (603) 271-3844, Scott.Mantie@doe.nh.gov

C. New Resources Posted to the Smarter Balanced Web Site

The Support for Under-Represented Students page (www.smarterbalanced.org/parents-students/support-for-under-represented-students) of the Smarter Balanced Web site now includes updated versions of the Read Aloud Guidelines, the Usability, Accessibility, and Accommodations Guidelines and new document Accessibility Resources Field Test and Operational Test Comparison.

Contact: Scott Mantie, (603) 271-3844, Scott.Mantie@doe.nh.gov

D. Smarter Balanced Does Not Endorse Schmoop

A company called Schmoop is claiming its test prep products are aligned with Smarter Balanced and with Cal State's EAP program. Please note this effort has no relationship to the upcoming Smarter Balanced operational test or to Smarter Balanced generally. Schmoop did not seek permission to use the Smarter Balanced name. Further, Smarter Balanced does not endorse Schmoop or its products.

CERTIFICATION

A. Experienced Educator Certificate

In order to move from a Beginning Educator Certificate (BEC) to an Experienced Educator Certificate (EEC), the new criteria include an evaluation component in addition to three years of teaching experience. The language to upgrade a credential in EIS now includes an assurance that the educator has been evaluated as effective or above for two consecutive years.

Contact: Ginny Clifford, (603) 271 4196, Virginia.Clifford@doe.nh.gov

B. Renewal Late Fee

Please inform educators whose credentials expire June 30, 2015, that the \$50.00 late fee is in effect and will apply to all employed educators whose transmittal form is postmarked or online renewal is received after June 30, 2015. The late fee was suspended while we adjusted to the new online renewal process. Educators are encouraged to renew online.

Contact: Lisa Landenberger, (603) 271-0072, Lisa.Landenberger@doe.nh.gov

DATA

A. 2014-2015 Evaluation of Staff Data Collections

The NH Department of Education is required to report aggregate staff evaluation data (teacher and principal) annually to the US Department of Education. There are two *Evaluation of Staff Collections* that will be released May 5th and are due by May 19th.

1. The Evaluation of Teachers Data Collection (waiver annual protocol requirement) needs to be completed by all public school principals and certified by the superintendents. Charter school data is certified by the school administrators.
2. The Evaluation of Principals Data Collection (waiver annual protocol requirement) needs to be completed by all superintendents (not required for charter schools).

Contact: Gretchen Tetreault, (603) 271-5874, Gretchen.Tetreault@doe.nh.gov

B. 2014-2015 Immigrant Students Data Collection

The New Hampshire Department of Education is required to collect aggregate immigrant data annually and report it to the US Department of Education. The 2014-2015 Immigrant Students Data Collection will go live in the Education Statistics System on Tuesday, May 5th. There is only one question in this data collection. School districts showing significant increase in the number of immigrants may potentially qualify for the Immigrant Children and Youth Grant. Please note this is a separate data collection from the English Speakers of Other Languages collection conducted in the fall. Immigrant students may not necessarily be limited English proficient (LEP) students. The Immigrant Student Data Collection is due by May 19th and needs to be completed by all superintendents.

Contact: Andrea Somoza-Norton, (603) 271-2034, Andrea.Somoza-Norton@doe.nh.gov

C. i4see

a) Spring NECAP Labels

The i4see workbench will be open for the second round of spring NECAP Science Labels from April 15 through April 30, 2015. These files only need to be batch verified. CERTIFICATION of NECAPspr is not needed.

b) Submissions

Please do not forget to upload your SubmissionCourse and StudentClassSubmissions. In addition to many other uses, these submissions will allow educators with access to PerformancePLUS to view the SBAC student results for their class(es), once the results are available.

Contact: Sandy Hyslop, (603) 271-2831 or i4see.help@doe.nh.gov

D. MS-22 Forms (Report of Appropriations Actually Voted)

A completed Form MS-22 (Report of Appropriations Actually Voted) for each school district must be forwarded to the Bureau of Data Management within 20 days of the close of the school district meeting as required by RSA 198:4-a, II.

Note: Copies of the school district meeting minutes, warrant articles, and the results of all votes taken should also be forwarded to the Bureau.

Contact: Ron Leclerc, (603) 271-3876, ron.leclerc@doe.nh.gov

E. Performanceplus and Data Support

As part of our SLDS (state longitudinal data system) grant, we offer free data coach support. Data coaches are helping schools throughout the state develop a culture of data use to inform instruction. Since data coaches will be available throughout 2015-16, plan to include the coaches in your professional development for next year. To schedule a data coach to come to your school, talk with you on the phone, or hold a webinar please contact Irene Koffink.

Contact: Irene Koffink, (603) 271-3865, Irene.Koffink@doe.nh.gov

F. School Board Members

In accordance with RSA 671:31, this year, please update your School Board members in ESS. A new application has been designed to accept this information. The updates are due by May 1, 2015. Please be sure to include the new term expiration dates and chairperson(s).

Contact: Sandy Hyslop, (603) 271-2831, Sandy.Hyslop@doe.nh.gov

G. School District Calendars

Please be sure to enter your school district's 2015-2016 calendar into ESS (from myNHDOE) as soon as it is available. These are due by May 1, 2015.

H. Teacher Salary Schedules

As soon as the teacher contract has been approved by the school district, this may also be entered into ESS for the first time this year. This is also a new application. The Salary Schedules are due by June 1, 2015.

Contact: Sandy Hyslop, (603) 271-2831, sandy.hyslop@doe.nh.gov

GRANTS and REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS

ALL RFPs Can be Found on the Department Website at
www.education.nh.gov/rfp/index.htm

A. IEP Facilitation Program

The Bureau of Special Education is seeking proposals for up to ten (10) NH Special Education Team Facilitators who will be responsible for facilitating meetings in school districts in a variety of locations across the State as requested by the school district (LEA) or a parent, and assigned by the Bureau. Deadline for Receipt of Proposals: 4:00 p.m., Friday, May 1, 2015.

Contact: Barbara Raymond (603) 271-3791, Barbara.Raymond@doe.nh.gov

HEARINGS

A. Ed 506.09 (School Nurse)

A public hearing will be held April 22, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. at the Department of Education, 101 Pleasant Street, Concord, NH 03301. Deadline for written comment will be May 6, 2015.

INNOVATIONS/INITIATIVES

A. New Hampshire's Performance Assessment of Competency Education (PACE).

On March 5, 2015 the US Department of Education approved New Hampshire's Pilot Competency-Based Assessment Program. PACE is a first-in-the-nation accountability strategy that offers a reduced level of standardized testing together with locally developed common performance assessments. These assessments are designed to support deeper learning through competency education, and to be more integrated into students' day-to-day work than current standardized tests. More information about PACE can be found at www.education.nh.gov/assessment-systems/pace.htm.

Contact: Paul Leather, (603) 271-3801, Paul.L Leather@doe.nh.gov

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

A. New Hampshire Policies and Practices in Arts Education (2 options)

Participants will examine and discuss the new Arts Model Competencies; share performance-based assessments aligned to the competencies; and learn how the new competencies support Ed 306, Minimum Standards for School Approval. Participants will explore how the competencies provide entry points for access to the arts curriculum for students with disabilities and will review relevant resources from VSA, the international organization on arts and disability. As a result of this workshop, participants will be able to demonstrate how their instructional practice and programs are impacted by these new policies, and how they can be used to advance student achievement in the arts.

- Friday, May 8, 2015, 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., room 15, NH Department of Education, Concord
- Tuesday, May 12, 2015, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., North Country Education Services, Gorham

Professional development credit is offered. For more information or to register go to www.nhartslearningnetwork.org or www.aannh.org.

Contact: Marcia McCaffrey, (603) 271-3193, Marcia.Mccaffrey@doe.nh.gov

B. REL Northeast & Islands Online Workshop

Understanding Data Use to Improve Instruction is a free online course for practitioners who want to learn the five stages of an inquiry cycle. In this course you will

- Become familiar with an inquiry cycle framework to improve your practice.
- Build data literacy and learn common first steps in data use.
- Generate research questions to drive personal data plans.

- Learn protocols to support data analysis, explore root causes of instructional challenges, and plan action from evidence.
- Earn a certificate from REL Northeast & Islands.

To learn more go to <http://workshop.relnei.org/modules-preview>.

DEPARTMENT STAFF UPDATES

Bill Ross has joined the Bureau of Credentialing. He will be working with districts on their Professional Development Master Plans. He will also support various components of teacher certification and renewal. Bill can be reached at William.Ross@doe.nh.gov or (603) 271-2407.

RESOURCES

A. April Is Prevent Child Abuse Month

Please take a moment to review the NH DOE Attorney General's *Recognizing and Reporting Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect Guidelines* found at www.education.nh.gov/child_abuse.htm. The role of educators begins on page 45.

B. Delegation Documents Released

The NH School Nurses Association (NHSNA) Board of Directors has posted two documents on their Web site (www.nhschoolnurses.org – at the bottom of the page). The documents are “Standards of Delegation for School Nurses in New Hampshire” and the NHSNA position document on “Delegation of Glucagon as an Emergency Medication.”

C. Earth Day

Earth Day Network’s inaugural Climate Education Week will be hosted April 18th-25th this year. Earth Day Network has developed an easy-to-use, ready-to-go online toolkit for K-12 students with everything you need to participate in Climate Education Week, including:

- Lesson plans
- Short videos
- Service learning projects
- Earth Day actions

Each day covers a different theme, from What is Climate Change? to Solutions: Green Jobs, Green Economy. This toolkit provides educators with opportunities to incorporate climate into multiple subject areas, practice service learning, and spur action on climate issues. For more information go to www.climateeducationweek.org.

D. Yes You Can! Health Curricula for 5th – 12th Grades

Schools throughout the US and beyond are now eligible to apply for free health curricula for 5th – 12th grades from the New Jersey Physicians Advisory Group. The *Yes You Can!* curricula has been independently evaluated and received the distinction of evidence-based curricula. There are four levels available: 5th-6th, middle school and two levels for high school. Schools awarded will also receive free web-based curriculum orientation and professional development sessions for their educators with continuing education hours awarded. A short application is all that is necessary and schools outside of New Jersey will be viewed as highly desirable. More information is available at www.njphysicians.org or

contact Irva Antoine, irva@njphysicians.org, (908) 322-9050, NJ Physicians Advisory Group, PO Box 352, Fanwood, NJ 07023.

E. SETDA

The State Educational Technology Directors Association (SETDA), founded in 2001, is the national non-profit association representing the interests of U.S. state and territorial educational technology leadership. SETDA's mission is to build and increase the capacity of state and national leaders to improve education through technology policy and practice. For more information, please visit www.setda.org.

OTHER

Governors Arts Awards

Nominations for the 2015 Governor's Arts Awards are now open. The awards recognize outstanding contributions made by individuals, organizations and communities to the cultural life of our state, including in Arts Education. While these contributions are usually made unselfishly, it is important to take the time to recognize and thank people for outstanding achievements. Please take a moment to consider individuals, organizations and communities that deserve to be acknowledged with a nomination for a 2015 Governor's Arts Award. Nominations can be made by an individual, group, organization or business. Click here for more information: www.nh.gov/nharts/artsandartists/gaa/2015GAA/nomination.html.

April is New Hampshire Genocide Awareness Month and Video Contest

Cities and towns throughout the state are urged by the Governor and the NH Legislature to observe this month in an appropriate manner educating the public about the evils of genocide and commemorating victims of genocide. The Cohen Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Keene State announce the first annual student video contest. Submissions must be received by Monday, April 27, 2015. For more information go to www.keene.edu/academics/ah/cchggs.

Archaeology Field School

This June and July, the N.H. Division of Historical Resources' annual archaeology field school will study an approximately 4,000-year-old Native American site near Squam Lake in Holderness. Field school participants will learn fundamental recovery and documentation techniques as well as basic artifact identification and field laboratory methods. Hands-on instruction in the field, background readings, and evening lectures by various affiliated scholars are all part of the experience. The field school will conform to archaeology standards set by the National Park Service. N.H. State Archaeologist Dr. Richard Boisvert will direct all fieldwork and instruction. Volunteer participants and those seeking graduate or undergraduate credit through Plymouth State University may register for any of the three two-week sessions: June 22–July 3, July 6–July 17 and July 20–July 31. Fieldwork will take place from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on weekdays. For more information and to register, visit http://www.nh.gov/nhdhr/scrap_info.htm#events or contact the N.H. Division of Historical Resources at (603) 271-6433.

Arts Educators Professional Development Workshop: “Evaluating Your Arts Programs: An Introduction”

This workshop taking place Friday, May 15, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm, at the PSU Graduate Center in Concord is for arts educators, teachers, teaching artists and creative development/youth arts program leaders, who work in educational and community settings, after school programs or summer arts programs. The workshop will include an overview of the *Logic Model*, an introduction to evaluation methods, activities applying the *Logic Model* with examples and small group work. This workshop will be especially useful for anyone interested in writing a grant or developing funding proposals. Certificates of attendance will be given. Workshop leader is Maren Brown, MBA and Principal of the arts consulting firm, Maren Brown Associates (www.marenbrown.com). The workshop is offered free of charge. Pre-registration is required. To register or learn more, contact Catherine O’Brian, Arts Education Grants and Programs Coordinator, NH State Council on the Arts, 271-0795, or Catherine.R.Obrian@dcr.nh.gov.

Art Teacher & Artist Chemical Safety Workshop

Come learn about the common chemicals of concern in the arts; safer alternatives; how to protect yourself and your students; specific recommendations by type of art; and proper storage and disposal. This workshop is taking place from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. on May 29th at the River Valley Community College in Claremont. For more information or to register go to <http://tinyurl.com/ArtSafety> or call Victoria Davis at (603) 448-1680.

Chemistry Lab Safety

Come learn about chemical hazards and management; identifying and fixing unsafe situations; tips for chemical management and safety plans; hands-on activities; inspection of a lab; and more. This workshop is taking place from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. on May 28th at the Valley Community College in Claremont. For more information or to register go to <http://tinyurl.com/ChemistrySafety> or call Victoria Davis at (603) 448-1680.

Hope Beyond The Darkness of Suicide

The Life Experience of Attempt Survivors features a discussion of the suicide attempt survivor Craig Miller and the National Alliance on Mental Illness(NAMI) *In Our Own Voice* presenters. This event is being held on May 11, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.at the Red River Theatre, Main Street, Concord. Tickets are \$12.00 per person and can be purchased at The Red River Theatre or on line at <http://bit.ly/1NKd5W6>.

Microcontroller Training

This workshop is for middle and high school teachers of computers, electronics, pre-engineering, robotics and other STEM disciplines. Attendees will explore electronics and programming with What’s a Microcontroller? and Robotics with the Boe-Bot and learn how easy it can be for students to automate their own STEM projects with the multi-core Propeller microcontroller using a simplified C programming environment called SimpleIDE. It is taking place July 20 – 23, 2015 at Great Bay Community College in Portsmouth. For more information and to register call Kathleen Totten at (603) 427-7651, or visit www.greatbay.edu/btcmicrocontroller,

NH Poetry Out Loud Championship Results Are In

At the state finals, Dessaline Etienne from Goffstown High School won New Hampshire’s tenth Poetry Out Loud championship and Nora Doyle from Plymouth Regional High School

was selected as alternate champion. As state champion, Etienne receives \$200 and travel expenses to compete at the national championship in Washington, D.C., accompanied by an adult chaperone. His high school receives a \$500 stipend for the purchase of poetry books. Doyle will receive \$100, with \$200 for her school library. At the national Poetry Out Loud competition in Washington, D.C., high school students from around the U.S. will gather to recite their selected poems. A total of \$50,000 in cash and school stipends are awarded to participants placing at various levels of the national competition. 2015 is the program's 10th anniversary both nationally and in New Hampshire. This year, approximately 10,000 New Hampshire students participated in programs through 37 high schools groups.

May 4-8th is Teacher Appreciation Week